

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF STATE POLICE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE



Leonard C. Boyle Commissioner of Public Safety

Colonel Edward J. Lynch Deputy Commissioner, Division of State Police

For Immediate Release September 12, 2005

MINOR MERCURY SPILL REPORTED AT SCHOOL

Connecticut State Police received a call at approximately 11:47 a.m. on Monday, September 12, 2005 from the Harvard H. Ellis Regional Vocational Technical School in Danielson. School officials reported that a small amount of mercury spilled onto the floor in the electrical shop and a few students were exposed to it. The mercury was reported to have come from a mercury switch.

Members of the Connecticut State Police Troop D, the Williamsville Fire Dept., the Mort Lake Fire Dept. and KB Ambulance Services were dispatched to the school, which is located at 613 Upper Maple Street in Danielson. The contaminated area and the affected students were isolated. Officials from the state Dept. of Environmental Protection, the Northeast District Dept. of Health and Cleanharbors Environmental Services were called to the scene.

The students exposed to the mercury were examined, as was the area contaminated. All mercury levels were measured far below any hazardous degree. No illness or injuries were reported by students or staff.

There is no criminal aspect to this incident. All calls should be directed to the school superintendent.

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